Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 33. (Cancelled.)

34. (New) A setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder composition which accelerates the setting of hydraulically settable cementitious compositions, comprising an admixture of the separate components

a) one or more water-redispersible polymers prepared by polymerizing a monomer mixture consisting essentially of

a)i) from 90 weight percent to 100 weight percent of one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of vinyl esters of optionally branched C_{1-15} alkylcarboxylic acids; (meth)acrylic esters of alcohols selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, propanol, n-butanol, 2-ethylhexanol, and norbornol; vinyl aromatics; monoolefins; diolefins; and vinyl halides, and

a)ii) optionally up to 10 weight percent of one or more auxilliary monomers selected from the group consisting of ethylenically unsaturated carboxamides, ethylenically unsaturated carbonitriles, diesters of fumaric acid, diesters of maleic acid, methyl methacrylamidoglycolate, N-methylolacrylamide, –methylolmethacrylamide, N-methylol(meth)acrylamide alkyl ethers, N-methylol(meth)acrylamide alkyl esters, and hydroxyalkyl(meth)acrylates;

b) from 0.1 to 25 weight percent of at least one alkanolamine-functional setting accelerant selected from the group consisting of NR_3, R_2N-

$(CH_2)_2$-NR_2 and singly amino-terminated or doubly amino-terminated polyoxyalkylene glycols having C_{1-3} alkylene groups, where the radicals R each independently are H, C_{1-6} alkyl, or C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl, the accelerants optionally present as salts of an inorganic or organic acid, and wherein in the compounds NR_3, from 1 to 3 R are hydroxyethyl radicals, 2-hydroxypropyl radicals, or mixtures thereof; in the compounds R_2N-$(CH_2)_n$-NR_2, from 1 to 4 R are hydroxyethyl radicals, hydroxypropyl radicals, or 2-hydroxypropyl radicals; and wherein the polyxoyalkylene glycols are polyoxyethylene glycols, polyoxypropylene glycols, or EO-PO copolymer glycols,

said redispersible polymer powder composition further comprising

c) at least one protective colloid,

d) optionally one or more antiblocking agent(s), and

wherein said composition is prepared by adding said accelerant to an aqueous dispersion of protective colloid-containing after polymer polymerization is completed and spray drying the composition, or the polymer is spray dried in the form of an aqueous dispersion in the presence of a protective colloid to form a redispersible polymer powder, and the accelerant is admixed in powder form with the redispersible polymer powder.

35. (New) The composition of claim 34 wherein no auxiliary monomers are present.

36. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the water-redispersible polymer powder is selected from the group consisting of vinyl acetate homopolymers; copolymers of vinyl acetate and ethylene; copolymers of vinyl acetate, ethylene, and at least one vinyl ester different from vinyl acetate; copolymers of vinyl acetate, ethylene, and (meth)acrylate ester; copolymers of vinyl acetate, ethylene, and vinyl chloride; copolymers of styrene and (meth)acrylic ester; and copolymers styrene and 1,3-butadiene, and mixtures thereof.

37. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the water-redispersible polymer powder is selected from the group consisting of vinyl acetate homopolymers; copolymers of vinyl acetate containing from 1 to 40% by weight of ethylene; copolymers of vinyl acetate containing from 1 to 40% by weight of ethylene and from 1 to 50% by weight of one or more other vinyl ester comonomers having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms in the carboxy radical, copolymers of vinyl acetate, from 1 to 40% by weight of ethylene and from 1 to 60% by weight of n-butyl acrylate or 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; and copolymers containing from 30 to 75% by weight of vinyl acetate, from 1 to 30% by weight of vinyl laurate or vinyl ester(s) of alpha-branched carboxylic acids having from 9 to 11 carbon atoms, and from 1 to 30% by weight of n-butyl acrylate or 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, and from 1 to 40% by weight of ethylene; and copolymers containing vinyl acetate, from 1 to 40% by weight of ethylene, and from 1 to 60% by weight of vinyl chloride.

38. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein said polymer comprises one or more polymers selected from the group consisting of copolymers of n-butyl acrylate, copolymers of 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, copolymers of methyl methacrylate with n-butyl acrylate and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; copolymers of methylmethacrylate and n-butylacrylate; styrene-acrylate copolymers containing at least one of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, n-butyl acrylate, and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate; vinyl acetate-acrylate copolymers with at least one of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, n-butyl acrylate, and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate and optionally, ethylene; and styrene-1,3-butadiene copolymers.

39. (New) The composition of claim 34, where the accelerants are not in the form of a salt.

40. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the accelerants are in the form of a salt with formic acid, acetic acid, or a mixture thereof.

41. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein at least one accelerant is selected from the group consisting of ethanolamine, triethanolamine, N–methyldiethanolamine,

triisopropanolamine, N,N-dimethylethanolamine, N,N,N′·N′-tetrakis[2-hydroxypropyl]ethylenediamine, salts thereof, and mixtures thereof.

42. (New) The composition of claim 41, wherein the accelerants are in the form of a salt with formic acid, acetic acid, or a mixture thereof.

43. (New) The powder composition of claim 42, wherein the setting accelerant is present in an amount of from 1 to 10 weight percent.

44. (New) A water-redispersible polymer powder composition with accelerated-setting action, comprising one or more vinyl acetate/ethylene copolymers; one or more protective colloids; optionally one or more antiblocking agent(s); and from 0.1 to 25 weight percent in total, based on the overall weight of the composition, of one or more setting-accelerants NR_3, $R_2N\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}NR_2$, or singly or doubly NH_2-terminated polyalkylene glycols having a C_1-C_6-alkylene group, where n = from 1 to 4, and where the radicals R are identical or different, and are hydrogen, a C_1-C_6-alkyl radical, or a C_1-C_6-hydroxyalkyl radical, and where the compounds NR^3, $R_2N\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}NR_2$, and the NH_2-terminated polyalkylene glycols are optionally present in the form of their salts, wherein the compounds NR_3 contain from one to three ethanolamine or isopropanolamine radicals, and optionally hydrogen radicals, methyl radicals, ethyl radicals, propyl radicals, or mixtures thereof; the compounds $R_2N\text{-}(CH_2)_n\text{-}NR_2$ contain from one to four ethanolamine, propanolamine, or isopropanolamine radicals, and optionally hydrogen radicals, methyl radicals, ethyl radicals, propyl radicals, or mixtures thereof, and n = 2; and the NH_2-terminated polyalkylene glycols are singly or doubly amino-terminated polyethylene glycols, singly or doubly amino-terminated polypropylene glycols, or singly or doubly amino-terminated EO-PO copolymers, and wherein said salts are salts with inorganic and/or organic acids.

45. (New) The powder composition of claim 44, wherein salts are present and are salts of formic acid, acetic acid, or a mixture thereof.

46. (New) The composition of claim 44, wherein said setting accelerant is selected from the group consisting of R_2N-(CH_2)-NR_2, ethanolamine, N–methyldiethanolamine, trisopropanolamine, N,N-dimethylethanolamine, N,N,N′,N′-tetrakis[2-hydroxypropyl]ethylenediamine, salts thereof, and mixtures thereof.

47. (New) A process for preparing the water-redispersible polymer powder composition of claim 34, comprising adding from 0.1 to 25 weight percent of at least one setting-accelerant to an aqueous polymer dispersion after completion of polymerization and prior to spray drying the aqueous dispersion, or spraying the setting-accelerant in salt form concurrently with the aqueous polymer dispersion, or adding the setting-accelerant in powder form after spray drying the polymer dispersion, the weight percentage of the setting accelerant based on the total solids of the aqueous dispersion.

48. (New) A process for preparing the water-redispersible polymer powder composition of claim 44, comprising adding from 0.1 to 25 weight percent of at least one setting-accelerant to an aqueous polymer dispersion after completion of polymerization and prior to spray drying the aqueous dispersion, or spraying the setting-accelerant in salt form concurrently with the aqueous polymer dispersion, or adding the setting-accelerant in powder form after spray drying the polymer dispersion, the weight percentage of the setting accelerant based on total solids.

49. (New) A process for the preparation of the powder composition of claim 34, comprising spray drying said polymer in the presence of a protective colloid to form a redispersible polymer powder, and adding said accelerant in powder form to said redispersible polymer powder.

50. (New) The process of claim 47, wherein an antiblocking agent is added to the redispersible polymer powder following spray drying.

51. (New) The process of claim 50, wherein the antiblocking agent comprises one or more of particulate calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, talc, calcium sulfate, silica, kolin, or silicate, the antiblocking agent particles having particle sizes in the range of 10 nm to 10 µm.

52. (New) The process of claim 47, wherein at least one protective colloid comprises partially hydrolyzed or fully hydrolyzed and optionally hydrophobicized polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 80 to 100 mol% and having a Höppler viscosity of from 1 to 30 mPas in 4% by weight aqueous solution at 20°C.

53. (New) The process of claim 48, wherein at least one protective colloid comprises partially hydrolyzed or fully hydrolyzed and optionally hydrophobicized polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 80 to 100 mol% and having a Höppler viscosity of from 1 to 30 mPas in 4% by weight aqueous solution at 20°C.

54. (New) The process of claim 49, wherein at least one protective colloid comprises partially hydrolyzed or fully hydrolyzed and optionally hydrophobicized polyvinyl alcohols having a degree of hydrolysis of from 80 to 100 mol% and having a Höppler viscosity of from 1 to 30 mPas in 4% by weight aqueous solution at 20°C.

55. (New) A construction chemistry product comprising at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, and the setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 34.

56. (New) A construction chemistry product comprising at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, and the setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 35.

57. (New) A construction chemistry product comprising at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, and the setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 36.

58. (New) A construction chemistry product comprising at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, and the setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 44.

59. (New) The construction chemistry product of claim 55 wherein said hydraulically setting inorganic binder comprises a Portland cement or an alumina cement.

60. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 34.

61. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 36.

62. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 39.

63. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 40.

64. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 41.

65. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 44.

66. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 45.

67. (New) A process for accelerating the setting of a construction chemistry product containing at least one hydraulically setting inorganic binder, comprising adding to said construction chemistry product, water and at least one setting accelerant and water-redispersible polymer powder of claim 46.